

205057US-OSRD

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :
MINAKO HIJIKATA ET AL : ATTN: APPLICATION BRANCH
SERIAL NO: NEW PATENT APPLICATION :
FILED: HEREWITH
FOR: GENETIC POLYMORPHISM OF
MXA PROTEIN AND USE THEREOF

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS
WASHINGTON, DC 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified patent
application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 13 as shown in the attachment. A clean copy of amended

Claim 13 is as follows:

Please amend Claim 13 as follows:

--13. (Amended) Use of a polynucleotide according to any one of claims 1 to 4, for
predicting validity of interferon.--

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-17 are active in this case; Claim 13 having been amended by way of the present Preliminary Amendment.

This Preliminary Amendment is filed in order to correct an inadvertent typographical error in Claim 13.

Accordingly, examination on the merits of Claims 1-17 is believed to be in order, and an early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

MARVIN J. SPIVAK
REGISTRATION NUMBER 24,618

Norman F. Oblon
Registration No. 24,618



22850

Telephone: (703) 413-3000
Facsimile: (703) 413-2220
NFO:mlh

205057US-0SRD

Marked-Up Copy
Serial No: New U.S. Patent
Application
Preliminary Amendment
Filed on: March 22, 2001

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claim 13 as follows:

Claim 13, line 2, after "to" insert --4,--.